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## NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**December 21, 2007**

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### **ARMED CARJACKER PLEADS GUILTY IN FEDERAL DISTRICT COURT**

SACRAMENTO--United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that ROBERT BRIAN WINSTON, 23, of Fairfield, pled guilty today to serial armed bank robbery, armed carjacking, and use of a firearm during commission of a violent crime before United States District Judge Garland E. Burrell, Jr.

The case was investigated by the Sacramento Violent Crimes Task Force, which includes the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department, with assistance from law enforcement personnel in San Lorenzo, California.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Michelle Rodriguez, who is prosecuting the case, on September 26, 2005, WINSTON and his accomplice entered the Wells Fargo Bank located at 2261 Del Paso Road, Sacramento, California. WINSTON and his accomplice had driven to the bank on a single motorcycle and each was still wearing a helmet, dark clothing, and gloves when they entered the bank brandishing weapons. WINSTON shouted instructions and took control of the lobby of the bank while his accomplice jumped the teller counter and took \$22,994. After they fled the Wells Fargo Bank, the robbers discovered that a concerned citizen had intentionally knocked over the robbers' motorcycle. WINSTON and his accomplice then carjacked a silver Honda Civic carrying a family with two young children and fled the scene. WINSTON was identified based on DNA analysis of materials located in the abandoned carjacked Honda Civic.

WINSTON also pled guilty to two earlier armed bank robberies: (1) on August 26, 2005, WINSTON and his accomplice robbed the Bank of America located at 2861 Del Paso Blvd., Sacramento, California, stealing \$23,709; and (2) on September 7, 2005, WINSTON and his accomplice robbed the Citibank located at 429 Paseo Grande, San Lorenzo, California, stealing \$12,071.50.

WINSTON is scheduled to be sentenced on March 7, 2008, at 9:00 a.m. before Judge Burrell. WINSTON faces a maximum of 75 years in prison for the armed bank robbery offenses, 15 years for the carjacking offense, a minimum mandatory seven years incarceration for use and carrying of a firearm during commission of a violent crime, and a five year term of federal supervised release. However, the actual sentence will be determined at the discretion of the court after consideration of the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, which take into account a number of variables, and any applicable statutory sentencing factors.

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